

REMARKS

On September 17, 2003, a Preliminary Amendment was filed in the present application to amend its specification to add at the beginning of the specification the present application's claims for domestic priority. In particular, the amendment to the specification requested by the September 17, 2003 Preliminary Amendment stated: "This application is a divisional of Application Serial No. 10/147,907, filed May 20, 2002, and claims the benefit of Provisional Application No. 60/291,647, filed May 18, 2001, the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference in this application." (Emphasis added).

On December 11, 2003, a Filing Receipt was issued for the present application which acknowledged that the present application is a divisional of the '907 application, but which failed to acknowledge the present application's claim to the benefit of the '647 provisional application. This omission in the Filing Receipt was realized in a recent final review of the file for the present application in connection with the issuance of a Notice of Allowance in the present application on March 29, 2005.

On April 25, 2005, a Request for a Corrected Filing Receipt was filed in the present application to request acknowledgement by the USPTO of the claim in the present application to the benefit of the '647 provisional application. The Request for the Corrected Filing Receipt included a marked-up copy of the December 11, 2003 Filing

Receipt which repeated the “and claims the benefit of” language used in the September 17, 2003 Preliminary Amendment with respect to the ‘647 provisional application.

On May 5, 2005, the USPTO Office of Initial Patent Examination issued a “Response to Request for Corrected Filing Receipt” denying the Request for a Corrected Filing Receipt on the ground that the ‘647 provisional application to which priority is claimed was filed over a year prior to the filing date of the present application.

On May 10, 2005, the undersigned spoke with Ms. Stokes in the Office of Initial Patent Examination regarding the “Response to Request for Corrected Filing Receipt” denying the Request for a Corrected Filing Receipt. In that conversation Ms. Stokes explained that the paragraph added to the beginning of the present application’s specification by the September 17, 2003 Preliminary Amendment needed to be amended as follows:

“This application is a divisional of Application Serial No. 10/147,907, filed May 20, 2002, ~~and~~ which claims the benefit of Provisional Application No. 60/291,647, filed May 18, 2001, the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference in this application.”

The present Amendment After Allowance seeks to effect this amendment to the paragraph at the beginning of the present application’s specification so that the present application’s claim to the benefit of the ‘647 provisional application can be perfected. In this regard, submitted with this Amendment After Allowance is a Second Request for a

OZGUR et al.
Serial No. 10/663,986

Corrected Filing Receipt to request acknowledgement by the USPTO of the claim in the present application to the benefit of the '647 provisional application.

It is respectfully requested that the amendment to the paragraph at the beginning of the present application's specification be entered so that the present application's claim to the benefit of the '647 provisional application can be perfected, and the Second Request for a Corrected Filing Receipt be granted and that a Corrected Filing Receipt be issued acknowledging the claim in the present application to the benefit of the '647 provisional application.

Respectfully submitted,

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